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18 June 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS STAFF

SUBJECT: Extent of Responsibility of PL/PM in the Field of Wartime Air Support of Covert Operations

REFERENCES:

- a. **SECRET** memo dtd 6 June 1951, to C-PO from C-PL/PM; Subject: Extent of Responsibility of PL/PM in the Field of Wartime Air Support of Covert Operations.
- b. **SECRET** memo dtd 17 April 1951, to ADPC from [redacted]; Subject: Staff Study Concerning Air Support for Covert Operations.

1. The need for delegating the responsibility for wartime air support activities is definitely great. It is also mandatory that the organization delegated the responsibility be adequately staffed to perform the duties delegated. The development of PL/PM paper is a logical and correct application as far as the problem is developed.

2. The air support board established by reference b. is not only concerned with making recommendations relative to peacetime covert operations but will make recommendations for all covert air operations. The board is primarily interested in peacetime operations because the ad hoc committee has worked upon wartime air support. The present board is proceeding from the findings of the ad hoc committee. It is not advisable to divorce the peacetime and wartime systems. Any organization developed must take into account the coordination of the two fields of air support and also determine if one organization can satisfy the needs of all CIA.

3. An organization for air support is necessary. The present manifold persons and offices working on various phases of air support is definitely unsatisfactory. It may well be that the organization for overall supervision or operation of covert air support should reside in PL/PM, however, until an overall estimation

of peacetime

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of peacetime and wartime structure is developed for OIC and/or CIA, it seems inadvisable to create an organization for one portion of the problem.

4. The air support board now working on recommendations for covert air support will submit a report within three weeks. This report will contain recommendations relative to an organization or organizations necessary in CIA for covert air operations.

5. It is recommended that any action to create a new staff or delegate responsibilities concerning air operations be withheld pending the findings of the present air support board.

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AREA OR COUNTRY(S)	ORGANIZATION(S)	GENERAL FUNCTION(S)	SPECIFIC FUNCTION(S)	DOC DATE CLASS <u>S</u>
HQ	OPC	SUP	Air Support	18 June
		PM		1951

IDENTIFICATION OF DOCUMENT

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Memo from [] [OPC] to Chief of Administrative and Logistics Staff. Subject: Extent of Responsibility of PL/PM in the Field of Wartime Air Support of Covert Operations.

ABSTRACT NOTATION REFERENCES:

Agrees there is a need for delegating responsibility for wartime air support activities. The Air Support Board is concerned with all covert air operations, but has worked primarily on recommendations re problems of peacetime operations because ad hoc committee has worked wartime air support and those findings will be used for Board's recommendations. It is inadvisable to divorce peacetime and wartime systems.

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